

IN THE CLAIMS:

This listing of the claims replaces all prior versions and listings of the claims. Please cancel claims 12-17, 19-28 and 30-34 as follows:

- 1           Claim 1. (previously presented) A method for managing a multi-  
2           tiered resource system, the method comprising:  
3                automatically determining if a resource tier is in compliance  
4           with a management policy, wherein the management policy includes  
5           requiring that an expiration date of the resource tier occur after a  
6           maintenance date; and  
7                if the resource tier is not in compliance with the management  
8           policy, automatically increasing available capacity in containers in  
9           order to bring the containers in compliance with the management policy.
- 1           Claim 2. (previously presented) The method of claim 1, wherein  
2           increasing available capacity in containers includes allocating  
3           additional capacity to containers belonging to the resource tier until  
4           the resource tier is in compliance with the management policy.
- 1           Claim 3. (original) The method of claim 2, wherein allocating  
2           additional capacity to the containers includes utilizing a capacity  
3           reserve belonging to the resource tier.
- 1           Claim 4. (original) The method of claim 2, wherein allocating  
2           additional capacity to the containers includes utilizing available  
3           capacity from other containers in the resource system.
- 1           Claim 5. (original) The method of claim 2, wherein allocating  
2           additional capacity to the containers includes allocating additional  
3           capacity to containers of higher importance before allocating  
4           additional capacity to containers of lower importance.
- Claim 6. (canceled)
- 1           Claim 7. (previously presented) The method of claim 1, further  
2           comprising calculating the expiration date of the resource tier.
- 1           Claim 8. (original) The method of claim 7, wherein calculating  
2           the expiration date of the resource tier includes calculating a life  
3           expectancy of each container belonging to the resource tier.

1           Claim 9. (original) The method of claim 8, wherein calculating  
2   the life expectancy of the containers includes adjusting the life  
3   expectancy of the containers to account for container lead-time.

1           Claim 10. (original) The method of claim 1, further comprising  
2   if the resource tier cannot be brought in compliance with the  
3   management policy, alerting that the resource tier is not in compliance  
4   with the management policy.

1           Claim 11. (previously presented) The method of claim 1, wherein  
2   increasing available capacity in containers includes compressing data  
3   within the resource tier until the resource tier is in compliance with  
4   the management policy.

          Claim 12-34. (cancelled)